

[English]

Power Theft In Karnataka

5198. **SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI**: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Electricity Board has suffered a loss of Rs. 7.21 crores due to power theft from 1989 uptil now;

(b) whether the Central Electricity Board has suggested a number of measures to the Board for reducing the power theft in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) It is not possible to segregate the technical losses and commercial losses due to theft of power from the total Transmission and Distribution losses. However, from 1989-90 to 1991-92 (upto February, 1992), Karnataka Electricity Board has detected 207 cognizable cases and 5045 non-cognizable cases and an amount of Rs.7.54 crores has been claimed for recovery.

(b) and (c). In order to check the theft of power, Central Electricity Authority has issued guidelines to all power utilities, including the Karnataka Electricity Board, which inter-alia, provide for the installation of meters inside tamper proof meter boxes sealed with number seals, setting up of vigilance squads, conducting of surprise raids to check theft of

energy and launching of prosecution against persons found indulging in the theft of energy.

Post and Telegraph Offices In Gujarat

5199. **SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA**: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges working in Gujarat at present, district-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that their number is inadequate to cater the need of population; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for augmenting the facilities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The details of post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges working in Gujarat, at present, district-wise, are given at Statement I, II, and III respectively.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, steps are being taken to further improve postal, telephone and telegraph services in the State. During the Year 1991-92, so far 37 extra departmental branch Post Offices and 2 departmental sub Post Offices have been sanctioned in the state of Gujarat. As regards, telephone exchanges, it is proposed to add 7.9 lakhs switching capacity during the Eighth Plan period. Telegraph facility too will be provided in more and more stations especially in the rural areas, subject to feasibility.

STATEMENT I***Districtwise details of Post Offices in Gujarat***

S.No.	Name of the District	Number of Post Office
1.	Jamnagar	386
2.	Rajkot	501